

**Environmental Commission Meeting
July 6, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chairperson Dave Colteryahn

In Attendance

Dave Colteryahn, chair
Veronica Craig
Tom Nault
Rita Rings
Gwen Ritchie
Dave Sheehan
Joe Stoeber
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation representative

Absent

Greg LoBuono, vice-chair
Donna Faulk
Dean Bruewer, Parks Board liaison

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the June 1st, 2016 meeting were approved as submitted.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles

Gwen shared an article about the planting of 3000 sugar maple trees in Detroit. All well and good, but she pointed out the lack of diversity. Roni had an article about a tiny wasp that was being studied as a possible predator for the emerald ash borer. Rita shared information about the city of Burlington, Vermont as being the gold standard for an environmentally enlightened community. She will provide a link to more detailed information about their activities as a possible source of new ideas for EC adoption. Rita also mentioned the Great Miami River Clean-up scheduled for the morning of October 22nd. The EC agreed to participate as a group.

Hours Spent on EC Activities

Dave Colteryahn/1, Rita/2, Dave Sheehan/1, Gwen/1, Tom/4, Joe/2, and Roni 4.

Adopt-A-Roadway

Roni was responsible for May/June. She commented on the sad state of the swamp oaks along Muskopf. Gwen is responsible for July/August.

Parks Board Report—Bob Schappacher for Dean Bruewer

The meeting was held at the Mansion. A new golf cart lease was finalized and a new Planning Commission representative was appointed.

Parks Department Report—Bob Schappacher

Bob distributed for discussion copies of the official statement of EC duties and functions per Ordinance 56-09, passed 4-27-09. An historical overview followed for newer members. Dave Sheehan and Joe agreed to co-chair an EC communication initiative, and the initiative will become a standing business item in the future. Bob will report on the associated submission process at the next meeting. Bob also requested a close review of the City's emerald ash borer management plan seeking significant changes. It was decided that the EC would conduct a tree pruning program at the Farmers Market on September 21st. Dave Colteryahn asked for a Creekside Park maintenance update. Bob responded that trees had been fertilized but not yet mulched. Bob also made the sad announcement that naturalist Amy Hall will be moving to Colorado to care for her ailing mother. The EC wishes to thank Amy for her impact on park programs.

Commissioner Reports

No nominations were submitted for the 2016 Friends of Fairfield Forest award.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar

Parks Board Meeting—July 19th at 6:00 pm @ Harbin Park

EC Meeting—August 3rd at 6:00 pm @ CAC

Programs

Brush Chipping—July 19th @ Groh Lane. 8:00 am to Noon.

Let's Go Hiking—July 16th @ Marsh Lake. 10:30 to Noon (FREE)

Senior Nature Series—August 1st @ Marsh Lake. 10:00 to 11:00 am (FREE)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm